

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 03659 01 OF 02 171249 Z

45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 DPW-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 OPR-02 SY-10

M-03 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 IO-12 RSR-01

/190 W

----- 089739

O R 171145 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0942

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL UDORN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL CAN THO

CINCPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

CINCUSARPAC

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 03659 01 OF 02 171249 Z

CGFMFPAC
CGUSARSUPTHAI
CNO
COMNAVFORV
COMNAVINTCOM
COMSEVENTHFLT
COMUSMACTHAI
DIA WASHDC
COMUSMACV
7 AF
7/13 AF
7 TH PSYOPS
COMUSSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 3659

JOINT EMBASSY/DAO

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, MOPS, CB
SUBJECT: KHMER REPORT - APRIL 17, 1973

GENERAL

1. THE YEAR OF THE BUFFALO, KHMER STYLE, WAS USHERED IN WITH TRADITIONAL FESTIVITIES AT THE END OF A COMPARATIVELY CALM WEEK. EFFORTS TO BROADEN THE GOVERNMENT ARE CONTINUING BUT AS YET WITHOUT VISIBLE RESULT. SIRIK MATAK SOFTENED HIS POSITION, HOWEVER, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT. GENERAL HAIG VISITED PHNOM PENH APRIL 10 AND 11 FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT LON NOL. SIHANOUK CONTINUED TO TRUMPET HIS INSPECTION TOUR OF FUNK ZONE IN CAMBODIA WHEN HE RETURNED TO CHINA AND VISITED NORTH KOREA. HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL VISIT 10 AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND REPRESENT CAMBODIA AT THE NON- ALIGNED SUMMIT IN ALGIERS. MEANWHILE THE REPUBLIC OF NIGER RECOGNIZED GRUNK. THE MILITARY SITUATION AT TAKEO AND ALONG NORTHERN ROUTE 2 CONTINUED TO DETERIORATE AND THE COASTAL TOWN OF KEP FELL ON APRIL 16 GIVING THE INSURGENTS A SMALL SEAPORT AND POSING A THREAT TO KAMPOT CITY. ROUTE 5 REMAINED INTERDICTED BUT TRUCK CONVOYS CONTINUED TO PLY ROUTE 4 AND THE SITUATION ON THE MEKONG CORRIDOR IMPROVED. THE LAST SECTION OF A RIVER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 03659 01 OF 02 171249 Z

CONVOY REACHED PHNOM PENH ON APRIL 15, PROVIDING SOME RELIEF

FROM THE SHORTAGE OF CIVILIAN FUEL OIL, BUT STRICT RATIONING
CONTINUES TO BE NECESSARY.

POLITICAL (INTERNAL)

2. SIRIK MATAK GRANTED AN INTERVIEW TO A WASHINGTON POST
REPORTER IN WHICH HE TOOK A FAR MORE CONCILIATORY TONE TOWARD
THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT THAN HE HAD IN HIS EARLIER INTERVIEW
WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES. MATAK SAID THAT HE HOPED THAT THE
MARSHAL WOULD NOT ALLOW THE EXISTING INSTITUTIONS OF THE
REPUBLIC TO STAND IN THE WAY OF REFORMING THE GOVERNMENT.
HE REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT DOES NOT
REPRESENT THE PEOPLE.

3. THE SEARCH FOR A GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE OPPOSITION REPRE-
SENTATIVES CONTINUES, THUS FAR WITHOUT APPARENT RESULT.

4. THE SHORTAGES OF FUEL AND ELECTRIC POWER IN PHNOM
PENH AND THE UNCERTAIN SECURITY SITUATION CAUSED THE AUSTRALIAN
EMBASSY TO EVACUATE ALL DEPENDENTS AND NON- ESSENTIAL STAFF
MEMBERS. THE BRITISH, JAPANESE AND ISRAELI EMBASSIES
EVACUATED THEIR SMALL NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS TO NEIGHBORING
THAILAND BUT THEY MAY RETURN SHOULD THE SITUATION IMPROVE.

5. THE KHMER NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS PROCEEDED WITHOUT INCIDENT
AND EASED THE PREVAILING TENSION. ADDITIONAL INSTANCES OF
ARMED ROBBERIES BY ARMY DESERTERS WERE REPORTED.

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL)

6. ZAIRE HAS REBUFFED THE GKR GENTLY BY REFUSING TO ACCEPT
THE NEWLY APPOINTED KHMER CHARGE D' AFFAIRES UNTIL AGREEMENT
IS GRANTED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR. ZAIRE HAS
APPARENTLY DECIDED TO DRAG ITS FEET UNTIL THE CAMBODIAN
SITUATION BECOMES CLEARER.

GRUNK/ FUNK

7. SIHANOUK CONTINUED TO CROW OVER HIS " INSPECTION TOUR" TO
FUNK TERRITORY IN CAMBODIA. HE RETURNED TO PEKING APRIL 11
AND WAS FETED BY CHOU- EN- LAI WHO CLAIMED GREAT INTERNATIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PHNOM 03659 01 OF 02 171249 Z

IMPACT FOR THE VISIT. KIM IL SUNG RECEIVED SIHANOUK APRIL 14.
THE PRINCE SHOWED STILLs AND A 16 MM FILM MADE DURING THE TRIP
TO BOTH THE CHINESE AND THE NORTH KOREANS AND NOTED THAT IT
WAS SLATED FOR AN AMERICAN TV NETWORK. COMMENT: CONFIRMATION
OF THE SCOPE OF THE VISIT AND PROOF THAT THE GHOST MINISTERS WERE

PRESENT AS CLAIMED AWAITS ANALYSIS OF THE PHOTOS. THE VISIT HAS NOT ATTRACTED SIGNIFICANT ATTENTION IN CAMBODIA AND APPEARS DIRECTED MAINLY AT INTERNATIONAL OPINION.

8. SIHANOUK MAINTAINED HIS HARD LINE ON RETURNING FROM THE LIBERATED ZONE, REJECTING ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT HE HAD TO TWIST THE IN- COUNTRY INSURGENT ARMY TO ALLOW HIS VISIT, SIHANOUK ASSERTS THAT NO ONE CAN NOW CLAIM TO SEE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE IN- COUNTRY AND PEKING GROUPS.

9. GRUNK MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY THIOUNN MUM SPOKE TO STUDENTS IN PARIS APRIL 4 ACCORDING TO AKI. HE MAINTAINED A HARD LINE IN PUBLIC AND TOLD FRENCH SOURCES GRUNK WOULD NOT TALK WITH GKR TRAITORS. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH PRESSED HIM INTO ADMITTING THAT ONLY SOME TEN GKR LEADERS ARE CONSIDERED TRAITORS AND THAT THE OTHERS COULD JOIN FUNK.

GRUNK/ FUNK EXTERNAL

10. ON APRIL 14 SIHANOUK ANNOUNCED THAT OFFICIAL VISITS TO SENEGAL, MALI, THE CONGO, GUINEA, AND ZAMBIA WILL START IN MAY. HE ADDED THAT HE WILL PRIVATELY VISIT ALGERIA, MAURITANIA, ROMANIA, YUGOSLAVIA AND ALBANIA AND THAT HE WILL REPRESENT CAMBODIA AS CHIEF OF STATE AT THE FORTHCOMING NON- ALIGNED SUMMIT IN ALGIERS.

11. NIGER RECOGNIZED GRUNK IN THE WEEK OF APRIL 2.

12. ZAMBIAN SPECIAL ASSISTANTS TO THE PRESIDENT CHONA AND LISHOMWA ATTENDED CHOU- EN- LAI' S BANQUET TO CELEBRATE SIHANOUK' S RETURN.

CONFIDENTIAL

ADP000
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 03659 02 OF 02 171251 Z

45
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 DPW-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 OPR-02 SY-10

M-03 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 IO-12 RSR-01

/190 W

----- 089791

O R 171145 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0943
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL UDORN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USUN
AMCONSUL CAN THO
CINCPAC
CINCPACAF
CINCPACFLT
CINCUSARPAC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 03659 02 OF 02 171251 Z

CGFMFPAC
CGUSARSUPTHAI
CNO
COMNAVFORV
COMNAVINTCOM
COMSEVENTHFLT
COMUSMACTHAI
DIA WASHDC
COMUSMACV
7 AF
7/13 AF
7 TH PSYOPS
COMUSSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 3659

ECONOMIC

13. ON APRIL 11, PHNOM PENH RICE STOCKS WERE REPORTED AT 24,046 METRIC TONS OR 53.4 DAYS' SUPPLY. TWO BARGES WITH APPROXIMATELY 3,000 METRIC TONS OF RICE ARRIVED WITH THE APRIL 15 CONVOY. THREE VESSELS WITH 26,000 METRIC TONS ARE EXPECTED IN KOMPONG SOM WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS.

14. RICE DISTRIBUTION CONTINUES WELL ABOVE NORMAL. ON APRIL 16, THE AMBASSADOR SENT A LETTER TO LON NOL IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH THE HIGH RATE OF DISTRIBUTION AND REQUEST

TION 3) SETTING FORTH THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UPON THE PRESIDENT WHENEVER, WITHOUT A DECLARATION OF WAR BY THE CONGRESS, THE PRESIDENT: COMMITS MILITARY FORCES TO ARMED CONFLICT; COMMITS COMBAT EQUIPPED FORCES ABROAD; OR SUBSTANTIALLY ENLARGES SUCH FORCES. IN LIEU OF PROVIDING THAT SUCH REPORTS SHALL BE SUBMITTED " PROMPTLY," THE SUBCOMMITTEE PROVIDED THAT THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED " WITHIN 48 HOURS."

THE SUBCOMMITTEE THEN DISCUSSED SECTION 6 CONCERNING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION IN RESPONSE TO SUCH REPORTS. THIS DISCUSSION FLOUNDERED UNTIL THE SUBCOMMITTEE QUORUM DISAPPEARED. THE CHAIRMAN HOPES TO CONTINUE THURSDAY MORNING. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM03659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730445/aaaaiqnt.tel
Line Count: 308
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980122
Subject: KHMER REPORT - APRIL 17, 1973 GENERAL
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, CB
To: BANGKOK
CANBERRA
COPENHAGEN
EA
HONG KONG
JAKARTA
KUALA LUMPUR

LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005